

A
FURTHER ACCOUNT
OF
New JERSEY. *

In an Abstract of
L E T T E R S
Lately Writ from thence,
By several Inhabitants there Resident.

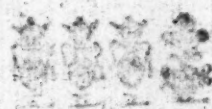


Printed in the Year 1676.

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FURTHER ACCOUNT
OF
New JERSEY.

In an Abstract of
THE

Rarely Written
By several Inhabitants there Residents.



Printed in the year 1776.

*A further Account of New Jersey,
in an Abstract of Letters lately writ from
thence, by several Inhabitants there resident.*

Dear Friend,

MY Love is to thee, and thy Wife, desiring
your welfare, both inward and outward;
and that we may be found steadfast in that
truth which is saving, for the welfare of our inner
soul. And dear Friend, the desire of my Soul is,
that we may know true Love, and I should be glad to
see thee and thy Wife; I have partly a remembrance
of thy Wife; And I have thought on thee many
times with tears in my eyes, and the Lord hath
done wondrous works for me; unto him I return
thanks & praises, who is God over all Blessed for ever.

Now Friend, I shall give thee something of an infor-
mation concerning *New Jersie*, but time will not permit
me to write at length. Thou desirest to know how I
live, through the goodness of the Lord I live very well,
keeping between 30 and 40 head of Cows, and 7 or
8 Horses or Mares to Ride upon, &c. There are 7
Towns settled in this Province, (*viz.*) *Shrewsbury* and
Middletown, upon the Seaside, and along the River side
and up the Creek there is *Piscataway*, & *Woodbridge*,
Elizabethtown, *Newwake*, and *Bergane*; most of these
Towns having about 100 Families; and the least 40.
The Country is very healthful, &c. In *Middletown*,

where I live, in 6 years and upwards there have dyed but one Woman about 80 years old, one Man about 60, a Boy about five years old, and one little Infant or 2 : there are in this Town, in twenty five Families about 95 children most of them under 12 years of age, and all lusty children. The produce of this Province, is chiefly Wheat, Barly, Oates, Beans, Beef, Pork, Pease, Tobacco, *Indian* Corn, Butter, Cheefe, Hemp, & flax, French-beans, Strawberries, Carrots, Parsnips, Cabbidge, Turnips Radishes, Onions, Cucumbers, Water-mellons, Musk-mellons, Squashes; also our soil is very fertile for Apples, Pears, Plums, Quinces, Currans red and white, Gooseberries, Cherries, and Peaches in abundance, having all sorts of green trash in the Summer time, & the Country is greatly supplied with Creeks & Rivers which afford store of Fish, Pearch, Roach, Baste, Sheeps-head, Oysters, Clams, Crabs, Sturgeon, Eels, and many other sorts of Fish that I do not name; you may Buy as much Fish of an *Indian* for half a pound of Powder, as will serve 6 or 8 men; Deer are also very plenty in this Province; we can buy a fat Buck of the *Indians* much bigger than the *English* Deer for a pound and half of Powder, or Lead, or any other trade equivalent, and a peck of Strawberries, the *Indians* will gather, and bring Home to us for the value of 6 *d.* and our Beef and Pork is very fat and good; the natural Grass of the Country is much like that which grows in the Woods in *England*, which is food enough for our Cattle; but by the water side we have fresh meadows & salt Marshes; we make good *English* Bread and Beer; besides we have severall other sorts of Drink; and travelling in the Country, and coming to any House, they generally ask you,

you to eat & drink, and take Tobacco, and their several sorts of drink they will offer you as confidently as if it were Sack. Here are abundance of Chesnuts, Walnuts, Mulberries, and Grapes, red and white, our Horses and Mares run in the Woods, and we give them no meat Winter nor Summer, unless we work them; but our Cows must be looked after; our Timber stands for fences about the Land we manure; we plough our Land with Oxen for the most part; a Husband-man here and in old *England* is all one, making most of our utensils for Husbandry our selves, and a man that has 3 or 4 Sons or Servants that can work along with him, will down with Timber again, and get Corn quickly. The best coming to this Country, is at the Spring or Fall, we make our Soap & Candles, & all such things our selves; in the Winter we make good fires, and eat good meat; and our Women & Children are healthy; Sugar is cheap; Venison, Geese, Turkies, Pidgeons, Fowle, & Fish plenty; and one great happiness we enjoy, which is, we are very quiet. I could give thee more information concerning this Country, but time will not give leave. In short, this is a rare place for any poor man, or others; and I am satisfied people may live better here then they do in Old *England*, and eat more good meat. The Vessel is going away, I have not time to copy this over; therefore take the sense of it, my Love salutes thee, farewell.

Richard Hartsbarne.

New Jerse, Middleton 12,
of the 19th Month 1675.

**For my Dear Bro. Richard Craven
in Lime-house.**

Dear Bro. and Sister,

I And my Husband do dearly salute you, hoping in the Lord you are all in good health, as we are all at this time; praises do I return unto the Lord for the largeness of his love unto me, the which I have great cause never to forget. I having this opportunity, took it to let you hear from us. And dear Sister, it would be the joy of my heart to see thee, and my Husband, and children here; and dear Sister, I have more comfort in one day here, then I had in many dayes in England, which is great joy to my souly, and do desire if the Lord be plea'd we may end our days together; and you may believe me, it is a brave Country, and we have Cows, Swine, and Hens, and are like to have Sheep shortly; and we are going to set up a good House, for we have not

a very good one at present, and we would take up some Land for you if we were sure you would come, & if the Country be unto you as it is unto us, if you lived better then you do, you would not repent your coming hither; but be sure you come with an honest Shipmaster, and bring some comfortable things in the Ship with you to take by the way, but I have found no want since I came out of the Ship: And for my dear Sister and Brother, I long to see your faces if you be free to come.

Thy Dear Sister,

Maria S.

New Jersey the 22nd of Oct^r 1735
 I have bought a Plantation by the advice and consent of some friends; upon which there is a very good house, a great deal of Out-housing, Orchards, and Gardens, newly planted, and well fenced; I do intend (if God permit) after the Harvest is gotten in, to come to England for thee, and I hope thou wilt be willing to come, seeing here the fertility of the Soil, and the whom thou knowest well, as Richard Cox and his

Dear and Loving Wife,

HAVING now an opportunity to let thee understand of my welfare through the great mercy of God, &c. and as to the other place it is as good a healthfull place as men can desire to live in, and here is plenty enough of all provisions, and good *English* Wheat and Mault, plenty of Fish and Fowl; Indeed here is no want of any thing, but honest people to Inhabit it; there is Land enough purchased of the *Indians* for ten times so many as we were, and these *Indians* here are very quiet and Peaceable *Indians*; In *New England* they are at Wars with the *Indians*, and the news is, they have cut off a great many of them; but in this place, the Lord is making way to exalt his name and truth; for it is said by those that live hereabouts, that within these few years, here were five *Indians* for one now, and these that be are very willing to sell their land to the *English*; and had *John Fenwick* done wisely, we had not been disperst, but I hope it may all work for the best; And dear Wife, I hope thou wilt be well satisfied to come and live here, where we may live very quietly and Peaceably, where we shall have no vexation, nor tearing nor rending what we have from us; I have bought a Plantation by the advice and consent of some Friends, upon which there is a very good house, a great deal of Out-housing, Orchards, and Gardens ready planted, and well fenced; I do intend (if God permit) after the Harvest is gotten in, to come to *England* for thee, and I hope thou wilt be willing to come, seeing here ^{will be} severall of thy Neighbours whom thou knowest well, as *Richard Guy* and his Wife

Wife, and *William Hancock* and his Wife, and many others; and here is an honest Friend with me, that would have a fourth part of the Land, &c. And so hoping these lines may find thee in good health, as through the great mercy and goodness of God, I have never been better in health.

My love to *Richard Green*, he desired me to send him some account of the Country, which to the best of my knowledge I will do; as to Building here is little until more People come over, for the Inhabitants that were here did generally Build their own houses, though after a mean manner, for they fell down Trees, and split them in parts, and so make up a sorry House, &c. But here is Earth enough that will make very good Brick, and Stone enough of severall sorts, as four that will strike fire, which may make Millstones, or what a man will put them to; they make their Little of Oyster-shells; here is good Land, and a Healthful and Plentiful Country, here is no Tanner in all the River, but some Tann their Hides themselves, after their own manner. Here is good Oak enough, here is Hemp and Flax, good Water, and the Ground will bear any thing that groweth in *England*, and with less Pains and trouble; with my dear Love to thee I rest thy Loving Husband,

Robert Wade
Delaware River the place
called Upland, the 2 d.
of the 2 d. Month 1676.

Dear and Loving friend John Surison,

MY kind love unto thee and to thy Wife, hoping these lines may find thee in good health, as thanks be unto the Lord we are all safe through mercy arrived at *New Casarea* or *New Jerse*: having an opportunity I thought good to send a few lines unto thee; I sent one to *John Jones* of *Chipman* Card-maker, & if any are minded to come over, they may go thither and know what goods to bring over that are fit to sell or use here: here is no want of any thing but good people to Inhabit; here is liberty for the honest hearted that truly desire to fear the Lord; here is liberty from the cares and Bondage of this World, and after one year or two, you may live very well with very little labour; here is great store of Fish and Fowl, and plenty of Corn, and Cows, Hogs, Horses, Oxen, Sheep, Venison, Nuts, Strawberries, Grapes; and Peaches: here is good *English* Wheat ripe in three Months, Wheat is at 4 s. a bushel, Barley at three, good White Rie at three, good *Indian* Corn at 2 s. 6 d. a bushel, half a bushel when it is planted will find a great Family a whole year with bread and drink, it is so great increase; but in *English* goods it will cost but half so much; the Beef fat its self, and Hogs fat themselves, they are fat all the year, and People may kill them when they have occasion; here is good Land enough, and wood enough, Servants are in great request, young Men and Maids come to great fortune (as they call it,) and do very well, the friends Daughter of *Bathford*, is very well, and wisheth her Father were here, he might live very well. I have sent you nothing but the truth, here are many things

too

too tedious to relate, my mother remembers her to thee,
 &c. & she would not have you be discouraged because
 of the Water, for the Lord is as well able to preserve
 by Sea as Land, we were near two Hundred People
 on board the Ship we came in, and there was an
 ancient Woman judged near fourscore years of Age,
 and she did very well, and severall others that were
 very ancient; we lost but two, and they were Brothers,
 So I rest thy loving Friend till death,

Ester Huckens.

New Jersey Delaware;

April the 4th. 1676.

My dear Friend,
 I have received your letter of the 21st inst. and am
 glad to hear that you are well, and hope you will
 continue so. I am well, and hope you will
 be in the same. I have bought a plantation
 close by me, to which I shall be very near neigh-
 bour, and the help of our acquaintance are
 near us, and I hope now they are satisfied by
 John Moxford that I could not write to thee
 before, and as to any news of the Natives or
 others, there is little, for all is at peace
 and quiet, and I do not hear one they are like
 to continue; and J. A. is now about to
 lay out some Land for those that have purcha-
 sed of him; now he sees he cannot bring us to
 liberty to him, for his aim was altogether for
 his

Dear and loving Wife,

THis may let thee understand that I am very well in health through the mercy and goodness of the Lord towards us, and I now having this opportunity, I thought fit to let thee understand of our welfare. Now dear Wife I hope thou wilt make provision to come to this place against I come, which I hope will be in the Winter if I can have convenient passage. R. Gny hath bought a Plantation close by me, so we shall be very near Neighbours, and the rest of our acquaintance are near us, and I hope now thou art satisfied by *John Meadock* that I could not write to thee before, and as to any news of the Natives or others, here there is little, for all is at peace and quiet, and I do not hear but they are like so to continue; and *Jo. F.* is now about to lay out some Land for those that have purchased of him, now he sees he cannot bring us to subscribe to him, for his aim was altogether for his.

his own exaltation; and not the publick good,
 my love to all our Friends and Neighbours,
 with my dear Love to thee and your Family,
 I rest thy loving Husband,

Robert Wade.

*The 17th. day of the
 4th. Month 1676.*

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DEAR

Dear and loving Wife,

MY dear love to thee and thy children; loving wife this may let thee understand that it was late before we came into this Country, but the Land was bought presently, the Natives were as willing to sell as we were to Buy; and there is Land enough bought, and here is very good Marsh as well as up-land & good Timber for Shipping, and it is a very free and plentiful Country for all provisions, as Corn, and Cattle, Fish, and Fowle, &c. But Jo. F. would not set us out our land, except those that were concerned would set their hands to such papers as he drew up, which would have been to ensnare us and all that come after us; I do not write this to discourage any; dear Wife, I hope to see thee here before this may come at *London*, if not, I desire thee to come as soon as thou canst; I am with *Robert Wade*, who has bought a plantation, and I am to have part with him, which will come to a little above 26 *l.* and
here

here is a brave River Fishing and Fowling ;
 the Whales run a shore here sometimes; and for
 Sturgeon, and all other fish here are abundance,
 we want Coopers to make Barrels Tubbs, &c.
 if any be desirous to come, here are plantations
 enough, and good *English* Wheat plenty; and
 here is Tobacco enough made on this River
 to freight a Ship, so dear Wife; expecting thee
 the first opportunity to come away ; with my
 dear Love, to thee and all friends and Neigh-
 bours, I rest thy Loving Husband

Roger Federick

*From Delaware River the 14th.
 day of the 4th. Month 1676.*

Dear and loving Wife,

MY dear love to thee and thy children; loving wife this may let thee understand that it was late before we came into this Country, but the Land was bought presently, the Natives were as willing to sell as we were to Buy; and there is Land enough bought, and here is very good Marsh as well as up-land & good Timber for Shipping, and it is a very free and plentiful Country for all provisions, as Corn, and Cattle, Fish, and Fowle, &c. But Jo. F. would not set us out our land, except those that were concerned would set their hands to such papers as he drew up, which would have been to ensnare us and all that come after us; I do not write this to discourage any; dear Wife, I hope to see thee here before this may come at London, if not, I desire thee to come as soon as thou canst; I am with Robert Wade, who has bought a plantation, and I am to have part with him, which will come to a little above 26 *l.* and here

(13)

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Roger Federick

*From Delaware River the 14th.
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